

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

15

DECISION

TOPIC

Fish Habitat Promotion With Local Entities Program Grant Review

Natural Resource Commission approval is requested for the fish habitat grant recommendations. All revenue derived from fish habitat fees, paid for as part of fishing licenses, is deposited in the state fish and game protection fund to be used for fish habitat development. In compliance with 571 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 35, at least fifty percent of all revenue from the sale of fish habitat fees is distributed equally among six county districts to county conservation boards. Each district is allowed to hold a two-year apportionment before money is reverted and redistributed equally among all districts. This program is a 90% cost share grant open to all county conservation boards for the development of fish habitat or acquisition of land to be used for fish habitat development purposes.

The Fish Habitat Grant Review Committees met in December 2009 and January 2010 to review county conservation board projects. Each district forms a grant committee made up of at least five county conservation board directors that rank and score all of the projects in their district. A district fisheries biologist sits on each committee for advisory purposes. The committee recommends funding the projects as follows:

District 1 committee recommends funding the following five (5) ranked projects.

Polk County	\$13,940.00	Rock Sill, Bank Armoring, and Fish Habitat at Thomas Mitchell Lake
Poweshiek County	\$24,258.60	Causeway Armoring and Repair at Diamond Lake
Hamilton County	\$32,872.50	Little Wall lake Shoreline Armoring and Habitat
Webster County	\$10,485.00	Bank Armoring – Badger Lake/JF Kennedy Park
Carroll County	\$26,601.90	Pond Construction at Tigges Wildlife Area

District I Total \$108,158.00

District II committee recommends funding the following three (3) projects.

Winnebago County	\$5,612.00	Ambrosion Recreation Area Aerator Project
Howard County	\$20,742.75	Turkey River J-Hook Weir Structure & Bank Armoring
Kossuth County	\$40,000.00	Scuffman Land Acquisition

District II Total \$66,354.75

District III committee recommends funding the following three (3) ranked projects.

Clay County	\$29,700.00	Scharnberg Park Bank Armoring
Clay County	\$14,040.00	Scharnberg Park Rock Jetty
Plymouth County	\$967.58	Hillview Lake Fish Habitat

District III Total \$62,460.00

District IV committee recommends funding the following project.

Shelby County	\$24,893.00	Silt Removal at Manteno Park lake
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District IV Total \$24,893.00

District V committee recommends funding the following project.

Lee County	\$89,466.00	Jetty and Shoreline Armoring at Pollmiller Park
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District V Total \$89,466.00

District VI committee recommends funding the following three (3) ranked projects.

Dubuque County	\$9,180.00	Upper Catfish Creek Aquatic Habitat Improvement
Iowa County	\$46,455.00	Lake Iowa park Campground Pond Restoration
Dubuque County	\$9,112.50	Heritage Pond Bank Stabilization

District VI Total \$64,747.50

The projects described in the table below represent the unsuccessful grant applicants. It is provided for the Commission's information but is not recommended for funding at this time.

Marshall County	\$16,740.00	Rip-rap at Sand Lake
Sioux County	\$33,600.00	Big Sioux Recreational Area Aeration and Fishing Platform
Taylor County	\$6,750.00	Fencing Project at Windmill Lake
Muscatine County	\$16,470.00	Discovery Pond Improvement
Mahaska County	\$53,000.00	White Oak Conservation Area Low Head Sediment Reduction Structure

The Department recommends the Commission to approve the aforementioned projects, as described above.

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
February 11, 2010